> Intelligence staff are being geared up and instructed to maintain close liaison with Intelligence Bureau, special Branch and other intelligence agencies.

> The empty rake is locked at Platform and is escorted by Railway Protection Force from Platform to sick/washing line.

> Basic security arrangements are also strengthened by minimizing the entry points and repairing of boundary walls of station limit, yard, etc.

> Frisking of all passengers and manual checking of their luggage has been introduced.

> Close Circuit Televisions are being installed at Important railway stations.

(c) The following railway stations have been identified over East Coast Railway which are being covered under the upgradation of security system to control any kind of untoward incident:-

(1) Sambalpur, Titlagarh, Visakhapatanam, Koraput, Bhubneshwar, Puri, Plasa, Paradeep, Kurda, Angul, Bhadrak, Talcher, Sirikakulam, Jagdalpur, Arku, Lakhimpur, Naupada, Raidakul, Balangeer, Kantabanji, Baragarh Mahasamund, Vubli and Munigunda.

Connectivity of State-capitals of NER

1476. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many State capitals of NER are not connected by railway lines;

(b) what steps are being taken to provide railway facilities in interior places of NER particularly in Sikkim, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Meghalaya;

(c) whether Government have any proposal to connect Sikkim by railway line; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the targeted period of time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R VELU): (a) 7 State capitals in the North East Region are not connected by railway lines.

(b) to (d) New Lines have been taken up from Dimapur to Zubza (Kohima) in Nagaland, Harmuti-ltanagar in Arunachal Pradesh and Azra-Byrnihat, Dudhnoi-Depa in Meghalaya. Survey for new line in Mizoram from Bairabhi to Sairang has been completed and proposal has been processed for necessary clearances. In Sikkim, Survey for new line from Sivok to Rangpo has been completed recently. As per Survey report, cost of construction of this 52 kms. long line has been assessed as Rs. 1329 crore. The time period of completion is not feasible to be fixed as project is not sanctioned.